

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Fourpence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2031, February 22, 1958

## POPULAR MASTER OF MAGIC

### A star of TV talks about his early days

By a CN Correspondent

THERE is a new item in the railway yards in David Nixon's house in Surrey. It is a three-ton crane, worked by batteries.

"It's a wonderful little job," David told me. For the Nixon railyards, of course, are models. Model engineering is still a genuine enthusiasm with this popular television star.

"I got the new crane through What's My Line?" David said. "Guessing somebody's occupation, I said that I would love to get into the cabin and drive one of those big mobile cranes you see on building sites, like the BBC's new T.V. Centre, for example.

"Within half an hour there was a telephone call from a big crane firm asking me if I would like to come along and handle one of their new jobs. Would I? I was on the site in no time and spent a wonderful morning in the cabin with a skilled instructor. I fairly whizzed that crane round. And to round things off they gave me a model of it to take home."

It was David's love of messing about with things, rather than books, that as a boy made him a conjuror. He loved taking clocks and old pieces of mechanism to pieces and putting them back—correctly.

"Two things set my mind towards the stage," David told me. "I was taken to see Peter Pan as a small boy, and later to see those wonderful magic shows given by

special friend had planned to do an acrobatic display at the local Scout concert, but while practising, David broke his leg. Part of his convalescence was a trip to a big London store which has a magic department.

"My father suggested buying the multiplying billiard ball trick. I think he had an idea that learning it might take up a lot of my time and keep me occupied, to the benefit of the family peace. When we got home I stayed up half the night learning it. And I did it at the Scout concert too. Incidentally," added David, "I doubt if I could do that trick now without plenty of time to practise."

#### LOFTY AND BEANPOLE

Next step for David was joining a boys jazz band. Because he was so tall—his nicknames were Lofty and Beanpole—he took up the double bass. Even then he was always trying out conjuring tricks and magic of various sorts. He even managed to get accepted as a member of the Magic Circle, the magician's "club." (Today he is a respected senior member.)

When the last war came David was rejected by the R.A.F. on physical grounds. He soon became involved in Forces entertainment as an amateur at home. Then he joined ENSA, the Forces entertainment organisation, and went all round the world as a khaki-clad conjuror and comic.

#### NEW PANEL GAME

So he had found his way to the stage at last. After the war he stayed in show business, and in 1953 he leaped to fame on TV.

"I was compère and comedy conjuror on a radio programme one night," he told me. "But I didn't know that I was being watched by a BBC official. He seemed to like me, and I was offered a trial in a new panel game for TV. I did it and thought I must have looked pretty silly. But next day I was put on the panel of another game. And that was What's My Line?"



### Putting two and two together

In the picture above we see Valerie (left) and Karina Baxter, 14-year-old twins, whose home is at Orpington, Kent. They are with Pekinese friends, Bonnie and Tina, which live next door. On the right are Michael and Peter Wisdom, five-year-old twins of West Horsley in Surrey, with their father's two bull terriers.



It was not long before the tall endearing conjuror with the little giggle and the swift wit was a national figure. Now he combines magic and discovering people's jobs, for one of TV's most popular series is It's Magic, with David Nixon presenting all sorts of ingenious illusions.

"I began as a straightforward conjuror. Then I experimented as a comedy conjuror with some tricks going wrong and the unexpected ones going right. I still have to practise a lot when I introduce a new trick and I do a lot of work in maintaining the big illusions I use.

"And of course if there's a spare minute I play with my model train sets and the new crane."

### Holidays on the heights

Over a thousand young people have enrolled in the training courses run by the Mountaineering Association. The first was opened recently in Glencoe, and each hardy holidaymaker was asked to bring his own ice axe.

The Association has arranged 116 courses this year in different parts of the country. The climbers will stay in huts, cottages, and farms in the Isle of Skye, the Ben Nevis region, Snowdonia, and the Lake District. About half of them are beginners who will learn the elements of rock-climbing from experienced mountaineers.

### The penny bun lady

Mrs. Rachel Winn, who has just died in Leeds, was the "penny bun lady" to thousands of Old Boys of Roundhay School there. She and her husband had been cook and caretaker respectively at the school for 30 years until they retired in 1952, and Mrs. Winn used to sell steaming penny buns on the school steps.

An Old Boy of the school once told Mrs. Winn that when almost delirious with fatigue on a forced march in Germany, a vision of her buns floating before his eyes had kept him going for miles.

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the famous Maskelyne family in London."

From then on most of David's pocket money went in buying conjuring tricks for use on his parents, brother, and sister.

His very first trick in public was at a Scout concert. He and his



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars . London . EC4  
FEBRUARY 22 . . . . . 1958

## YOUNG TOWN COUNCIL

THE town of Englewood, New Jersey, recently handed over its civic affairs to a girls' high school for a whole day, and we can take pride in the fact that an English girl played a leading part in the proceedings. Seventeen-year-old Anne Gunn of Bristol, daughter of one of the U.S. representatives of a British motor firm, was chosen to be Mayor.

As temporary guardians of this American town's affairs, these girls had a busy and interesting time. Anne, who had the honour of presiding at a full-scale council meeting, afterwards said that she wished she could be Mayor a little longer because there were so many things to be done. She also said that members of her committee were so anxious to make Englewood a better place to live in that they wanted to spend much more money. Such is the way of youth!

The work of town councils may perhaps seem a little dull to young people. But there were no dull moments for these schoolgirls, and there can be little doubt that they now have a better understanding of local government. The Englewood "do-it-yourself" way of teaching civics might well be worth a trial by other cities and towns.

## STEPPING STONE TO ARAB UNITY

By the CN Diplomatic Correspondent

SEVERAL new independent States have come into being since the war; but the union of two independent States, Egypt and Syria, is unique in modern times; and the experiment will be watched with great interest all over the world.

The Presidents of Egypt and Syria have officially announced the linking of their two countries in a United Arab Republic "whose peoples are part of the Arab nation."

These countries are separated by hundreds of square miles of land occupied by two other independent States: Israel and Jordan. But for all legal purposes their peoples will be one people under one flag.

Already President Abdel Nasser has been nominated as Head of State, and this was a foregone conclusion for three reasons: Egypt is much the bigger of the two countries, with a population of 23 million, compared with Syria's four million. The Suez Canal and Egypt's geographical position make her the bridge between the Eastern and Western worlds. Thirdly, by skilful use of his opportunities, and of propaganda, Colonel Nasser has established his right in the eyes of millions of Arabs to lead them towards their centuries-old dream of a united Arab Empire.

### JOINING THE BROTHERHOOD

If the union experiment succeeds the next step will undoubtedly be to "encourage" the other Arab nations—Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and some smaller States, including the Red Sea kingdom of Yemen—into an all-Moslem brotherhood occupying a vast area in North Africa and the Middle East down to the Persian Gulf.

This young union is republican, and therefore hostile to rule by a monarch. So it is easy to understand why the remaining Arab kings—notably Hussein of Jordan, Feisal of Iraq, and Saud of Saudi Arabia—appear to view the new movement with mixed feelings.

They, too, have to reckon with the age-old yearning for Arab

unity. This yearning was stifled for centuries by the rule of the old Turkish Ottoman Empire. It was fully awakened when this empire crumbled in 1918 as the result of war with the Western Powers.

There is another point. A United Arab Republic recalls the fact that from the eighth century and onwards a united Arab empire stretched from Asia to Spain.

The kings may be anxious about their own position, but they cannot ignore their status as fathers of their peoples. King Saud, for instance, is venerated by all Arabs as keeper of the holy places of Mecca, to which all faithful Moslems make a pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime.

No doubt the kings would wish Arabs to be united under a sovereign and not a president, and a Union of Arab kingdoms is not out of the question.

### EYES ON OIL

Western statesmen are concerned about the outcome of this experiment, because the industrial life of the West depends at present largely upon Middle East oil. Egypt controls the now nationalised Suez Canal through which the oil tankers pass, and Syria dominates the important oil pipelines which pass through her territory.

Details of the union plan are as yet obscure. But there is to be one Parliament—a National Assembly with half the M.P.s elected by the two countries and the other half selected by President Nasser.

## Out and About

WE approached a pond just to see what might be going on. It was one of those ponds where, in spring time, various insects can be seen.

The weather was not warm enough yet for much movement to be noticeable, but there was something strange on the warm, sunny side of a piece of log near the water's edge. It looked like dark lace at first, and then like a lot of small brown spiders sunning themselves, the front legs of one just reaching the back legs of another, so that they made a pattern. From still closer they could be recognised as pond skaters, those fast moving insects that can jump and slide on the pond without breaking the water-surface, and yet can also dive and swim under water.

In a few weeks we intend to look for some other insects of the pond, among them the most remarkable performer of them all—the water boatman.

C. D. D.

## News from Everywhere

To allow two children to get to school in safety, a £1800 bridge is to be built across the River Allen in Northumberland. At the moment the girls cross by stepping stones.

### NEW NOTE IN VALENTINES

An American firm has produced a Valentine card containing a tiny musical-box which plays "Let me call you sweetheart." It costs about £5.

Workmen carrying out alterations to a house at Welwyn, Hertfordshire, discovered a quantity of bread tokens under the floorboards. About twice the size of a penny, they were issued by the Parish Council many years ago to poor people in the district.

### Water suit



This Naval airman is wearing a suit designed to keep the wearer afloat and warm while in the water. He had to be carried to undergo tests in Portsmouth Harbour.

### THEY SAY . . .

THE achievements of British scientists with Zeta have excited the admiration of the world, but we are at the beginning of the road rather than at the end.

Lord Mills, Minister of Power

THE human brain is a most unusual instrument of elegant and as yet unknown capacity.

Mr. S. L. Seaton, to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers

Two million tons of smoke, 800,000 tons of grit, and well over four million tons of sulphur dioxide are released into the atmosphere by the coal burned in Britain every year.

Oilfields in Britain produced 82,000 tons of crude oil last year. Nearly all of it came from Nottinghamshire, where further drilling is in progress.

### OUCH!

Toothache causes the loss of 500,000 working hours in British industry every year, according to the chief dental officer at the Ministry of Health.

It is now an offence to keep pet rabbits in the Australian State of Victoria, and children have taken nearly 1000 rabbits to Melbourne Zoo. They are keeping their pets supplied with apples, grass, carrot tops, and lettuce.

Four Italians have climbed the 13,366-foot-high Torre de Paine, near Buenos Aires, for the first time. Because of high winds, the last 984 feet of the climb took them 19 hours.

Coffinite, a rare uranium-bearing mineral, has been found in a disused tin and copper mine near Truro in Cornwall. Only two other deposits of this mineral are known in the whole world.

### PEN-FRIENDS WANTED

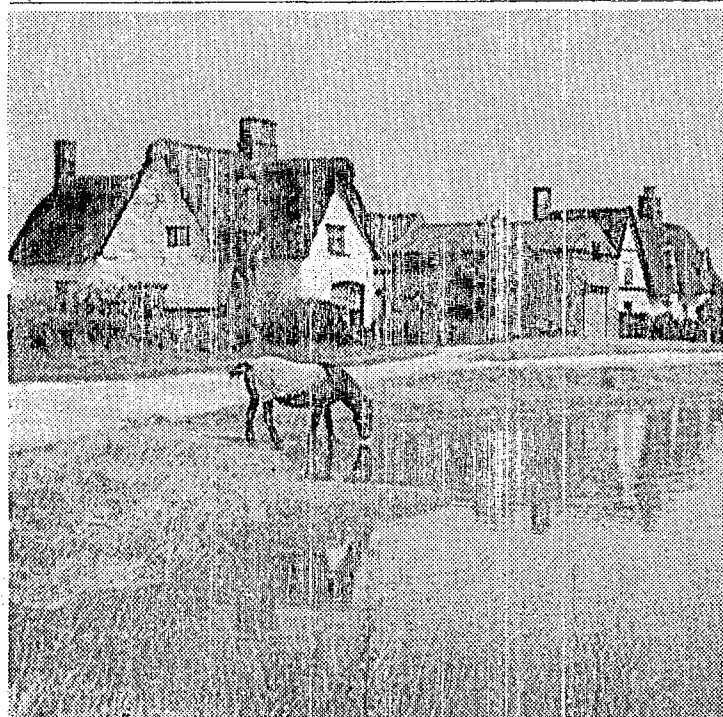
Some 50,000 children want pen-friends in Britain. All children who wish to correspond with Americans should write to the English-Speaking Union, Berkeley Square, London.

The High Street of Crosshill in Derbyshire has sunk 30 inches as a result of mining subsidence. Squads of men have had to stand by continuously to repair electricity cables and water and gas pipes.

### POPULAR POODLES

British breeders exported nearly 4000 dogs last year, over half of which went to the United States. Nearly a third of the total were miniature poodles.

A camera said to be capable of photographing an orange at a distance of 1000 miles is being sent from the U.S. to Australia, to take pictures of the satellite, Explorer.



OUR HOMELAND

In the Cambridgeshire village of Wicken

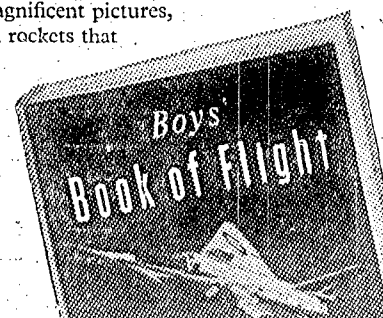
PETER TWISS says:

"full of factual and interesting information"

A book full of thrills, facts and magnificent pictures, covering all aviation subjects from rockets that think to airfields that float. The author—with the help of the vast resources of FLIGHT—has produced the most informative, accurate and up-to-the-minute aviation book yet—don't miss it!

12s. 6d. net

FROM ALL BOOKSELLERS





## Looking at the stars

Mr. C. H. Robinson, librarian at the Town Hall, Crayford (Kent), has made this 18-inch telescope. His "observatory" will be open to the public during the evenings for study of the heavens. Here we see Mr. Robinson and his assistant in this fine local enterprise.



## GREAT WELFARE AGREEMENT

Australia and Britain have a new agreement on social security. From April 1, British emigrants to Australia will receive the same pensions as Australians, and will also qualify for the same family allowances, and sickness and unemployment benefits. Australians in Britain will have corresponding rights.

The agreement was signed in Canberra by the Prime Ministers of Britain and Australia. In a joint statement, they said: "The people of the United Kingdom and Australia will now be able to move freely from one country to the other without sacrificing rights they have acquired to benefits and pensions."

## College in Surrey manor house

The beautiful 200-year-old manor house of Stoke D'Abernon in Surrey has become a staff training college for the great steel company of Richard Thomas and Baldwins.

The first college of its kind in the country, it was opened the other day by Sir Edward Boyle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education.

The company's staff, attending courses in modern steel production, will live in the gracious surroundings of Tudor panelling, Nash ceilings, a George I staircase, and an Adam chimney-piece. The old house has fine grounds beside the River Mole, close to a church which dates back to Saxon times.

## SAVINGS BURIED BY A SAXON

Workmen digging the foundations of a new building for Wymondham College, Norfolk, have unearthed a hoard of nearly 900 Saxon coins. The biggest hoard found in this country for nearly a century, they were lying near the remains of a pottery jar two-and-a-half feet below the surface.

Some of them date from the reigns of Alfred (871-901) and his son, Edward the Elder (who died in 924). They were probably hurriedly hidden by some anxious householder during the fighting when Edward re-conquered East Anglia from the Danes and pushed the Saxon frontier from the line of Watling Street up to the Humber.

## TWO CHURCHES OF ST BRIDE'S

St. Bride's Church in Fleet Street, which was re-opened shortly before Christmas, has close links with a church 12,000 miles away in New Zealand.

St. Bride's at Mauku, near Auckland, was built partly with funds raised by the Fleet Street parishioners nearly 100 years ago, and recently the Mauku people returned the compliment by sending donations towards the rebuilding of their war-damaged sister church in London.

The links between the two churches have been further strengthened, for the Rev. D. A. Bradlock of the Mauku church and his two churchwardens have been made liverymen of the Guild of St. Bride, and have now received three guild medallions from the Rev. Cyril Armitage, Rector of the Fleet Street church.

## VOTING BY PICTURE

The first general election to be held in the Sudan since it became an independent republic begins next week. As few of the voters can read or write, they will be given ballot papers showing picture symbols such as an elephant, a bottle, and a cow. Having been told which symbol stands for which candidate, the voter simply puts a cross against his choice.

In some of the more primitive constituencies the system is even simpler. The voter asks an official for a paper showing the symbol of his chosen candidate, and, without writing anything on it, drops it into a box bearing the same symbol.

The Sudan's population of ten million is spread over a vast area, so voting will continue from February 27 until March 8.

## Stone from home

An altar stone is being sent from the Derbyshire village of Eckington to Upington, near Kimberley, South Africa. It is a gift from the local church council to the Rev. James Abdy, a native of Eckington, who went to Africa four years ago.

● 2118 PRIZES . . . AND STILL TIME TO ENTER! ●

# The CN National Handwriting Test of 1958

TIME is getting short . . . only a few days remain in which to send for Entry Forms for this great competition, and the final schools' application coupon is printed below.

It is the *seventh* of these nation-wide Tests to be held by CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER—this time with a greatly increased prize list—and schools and teachers are invited to co-operate by entering their pupils.

The competition is for all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands who are *under 17 years of age*. The special Entry Forms are for issue *only* through schools.

Each entrant has only to copy the Test Passage, a short paragraph on the art of Handwriting (printed on the Entry Form), in his or her normal handwriting, as taught in school.

The Prizes, listed on the right, total One Thousand Pounds in value—while in addition there will be many thousands of Awards of Merit for other boys and girls.

To give an equal chance to all, entries will be classed in **THREE AGE GROUPS**, with three double prizes in each group for schools and pupils. You can thus win for *your school* as well as for yourself, or perhaps gain one of the other awards in that list of 2118 prizes!

If you would like to be entered for the Test, please show this page to your Teacher and (unless the school has already applied) ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon here and send it to the C.N. Remember that entries *must* be on the special Entry Form which is issued only to schools and only on request.

Remember, too, that there is a special age group for *you*, and that your test effort may be completed in school or at home, as decided by your Teacher.

There is **NO** entry fee, but when returned every form must have affixed to it one of the Tokens (marked CN Writing Test 1958), now to be found in every issue of the Newspaper. One of these Tokens is printed at the foot of the back page of this copy.

When completed all entries are to be sent in in accordance with the directions given in the Entry Form. The Closing Date for entries is Monday, March 31. Entries will be judged by a committee of educationists and other qualified examiners headed by the Editor of CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER.

## ● NOTE TO TEACHERS ●

The Entry Form contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's attempt, and the full rules. It is issued to schools *only* on request, and if desired a specimen copy will be sent before the full request is made.

Teachers are asked to be good enough to assess the required number of forms as closely as possible, and to send for them—or for the specimen copy only, in the first place—on this coupon. The form or forms will then be sent *free* and *post free*, to be handed out at school.

The **LAST DATE FOR FORM APPLICATIONS** is February 28, and the competition closing date is Monday, March 31.

(N.B.—It is regretted that the Test cannot be extended to schools outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Irish Republic.)

## £1000 Prize List!

### GROUP A . . Pupils under 9 years

1st Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£3

### GROUP B . . Pupils aged 9 to under 12

1st Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£3

### GROUP C . . Pupils aged 12 to under 17

1st Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£50
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£5
2nd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£25
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£4
3rd Prizes :	To the School .. ..	£10
	Prize-winning Pupil .. ..	£3

**100 Consolation Prizes :** 50 Wrist-watches and 50 copies of the Concise Oxford Dictionary.

**2000 Other Prizes :** Special "exchange point" Fountain-pens for next best entries.

**10,000 Awards of Merit :** Certificates for the best entry from each school submitting 10 or more attempts and not represented in the above prize list.

To CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Competition Dept., 3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.). C.N. 5

Please send me (free and post free) . . . . . copies of the C.N. NATIONAL HANDWRITING TEST of 1958 Entry Form for my pupils.

..... PRINCIPAL/FORM MASTER or MISTRESS

School .....

School Address .....

This coupon may be posted under 2d. stamp if sent unsealed.



ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES-AND PROGRAMMES

## IN THE DAYS OF PEPYS

### The Diary comes to life on the screen

WHEN The Diary of Samuel Pepys begins on BBC Television on March 7, it looks as if switching on our TV sets will be like throwing open a casement window on 17th-century England.

That is the effect aimed at in this 14-part series, the longest so far in BBC Television, which Chloe Gibson is producing from the script of the well-known screen writer Col. A. R. Rawlinson. There will be 162 speaking parts, all characters in the famous Diary. In addition to Mr. Pepys and Mistress Pepys, we shall meet many other colourful figures, including Charles II, the Duke of York, Lord Sandwich, and Lady Castlemaine.

#### GREAT FIRES OF LONDON

Col. Rawlinson said to me: "I have spent a year and a half on the Diary and in going through unpublished material at Cambridge and Oxford. The 17th century strikes me as one of the most fascinating in English history."

Miss Chloe Gibson almost echoed his words. "What a chance, for instance, we have with the Great Fire of London!" she told me. "Some of the fire scenes are actual film from the London wartime blitz. We remembered, though, that Wren's St. Paul's came after the Fire, so we had to be careful not to show the dome!"

The son of a tailor, Pepys was born in Salisbury Court, only about 200 yards from where the C N offices now stand. He was 27

and a clerk in Westminster when he began his Diary, written in his own personal shorthand. The Diary covers a period of eleven years, up to 1670, by which time Pepys was Secretary of the Admiralty. It is a unique literary treasure, telling as no other document of those times how people of all sorts, from the highest to the lowest, lived in the years immediately after the Restoration.

Col. Rawlinson said that every scene in the TV version is based on entries in the Diary or on what he found in his researches. It covers the Coronation of Charles

II, political and social upheavals, and, of course, the fashions, including a new "sack-line" from Paris worn by Mistress Pepys.

Peter Sallis, who plays Pepys, has been appearing in The Black Arrow serial in BBC Children's TV. Mistress Elizabeth Pepys will be played by 24-year-old Susan Maryott, with Douglas Wilmer as Charles II and David Peel as Duke of York, later James II.

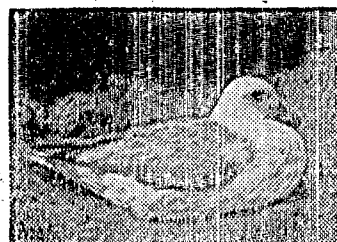
Chloe Gibson told me that a complete model of the Old City of London, before the Great Fire of 1666, has been built for filmed shots at Ealing Studios.



Samuel (Peter Sallis) looking after his wife (Susan Maryott) after she has burnt her hand.

## Focus on the fulmar

ONLY a few years ago anyone who had caught sight of that striking bird the fulmar must have been either in the Arctic or the remotest Scottish Hebrides. Why the fulmar has recently changed its



Photograph by John Markham

habits and now haunts the whole of Britain's coastline is one of the fascinating themes in Look, in BBC Television this Wednesday.

The BBC Natural History Unit, based on Bristol, has hunted the fulmar on film. Their pictures will be shown and discussed by James Fisher.

## Bones on the trail

THE boy detectives Norman and Henry Bones will be following an old trail in BBC Children's Hour on Saturday. In Line of Fire they will be heard in a new production by Josephine Plummer of a play originally broadcast four years ago.

## Did you name the Zebra?

HAVE you named the Zebra? In BBC Television's Studio E next Monday we can see £95 in prizes being awarded to winners of the Name the Zebra competition organised by ROSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

First announced in Studio E on January 6, it was for boys and girls under 16. The lucky first prizewinner gets £25. Second

prize is £15, the third is £5, and there are 50 consolation prizes of £1.

In the same programme Charles Gardner will be showing a model and describing the new Vickers V.C.10 jet-airliner, which is expected to take the air in 1963. A test pilot will join him to tell exactly what it feels like to take up an aircraft that has never been flown before.

## The siege of Aston Hall

CASTLES were built for siege warfare, but it is uncommon to come across an ordinary house that has stood up to this treatment. Such is Aston Hall, in Birmingham, which BBC Children's TV visits on Friday. There was a fierce hour or two in the story of this quiet home about 300 years ago, when the Birmingham folk, who favoured Cromwell, stormed the Hall and captured its Royalist owner, Sir Thomas Holte.

Such scenes as this will be enacted on Friday by members of the Birmingham Theatre School, wearing authentic costumes. Well-known Midland commentator James Prestidge will be taking part as Aston Hall's story is unfolded from the time King Charles I visited it up to the present day.

## Chaos on the bridge

MANY pupils of London's Guildhall School of Music who stay up late—10.15 p.m.—on Friday may recognise an old friend on BBC Television. It is the funny opera Comedy on the Bridge, written by the Czech composer Bohuslav Martinu, which has been performed privately at the school and also at Morley College, but not on the professional stage in this country.

The whole action takes place on the bridge between two countries. The villagers have passports enabling them to get on the bridge, but not to get off. No wonder the bridge gets crowded!

As I write, the BBC are hoping that ten Guardsmen will be given leave to add their weight to this unusual bridge party.

## Little girl who said kuck-umber

A LITTLE seven-year-old girl in Pitlochry, Scotland, was reading Alice in Wonderland. When she got to the bit where Alice falls through the cucumber frame she pronounced it kuck-umber, and wondered what such an ugly word meant.

The little girl is now Miss G. M. Miller, known to all her friends as Elizabeth. She is Head of the BBC Pronunciation Unit, which gives announcers advice on how to say awkward-looking words and strange-sounding place names.

"I have loved words and pronunciation ever since that first reading of Alice," Miss Miller told me. "Another word I got wrong was in the line 'Eyes full of unshed tears.' I called them 'Unched tears,' rhyming with 'punched,' and thought how beautifully right that sounded for when you want to cry but mustn't!"

Miss Miller and her assistants have a block of filing cabinets giving the pronunciation of about 45,000 words and proper names. When a village suddenly comes into the news, how does the Unit check the pronunciation? "We ring up the vicar or the postmaster," said Miss Miller. "Or



Miss G. M. Miller

just call the local telephone exchange." For foreign names it is sometimes necessary to phone the countries' London consulate or embassy.

Although most of Miss Miller's work has to do with News, she and her Unit are always being asked for advice by Schools Radio and TV, the BBC Drama Department, and—very often indeed—Housewives' Choice.

## Gray Ghost rides again

A DASHING new character from old history was due to make his bow in television on Monday. He is John Singleton Mosby, a fabulous figure from the American Civil War, and now the central personage in The Gray Ghost film series at 6.10 on Monday nights in Associated-Rediffusion. (Gray, incidentally, is the American spelling of grey.)

Tod Andrews, who plays Mosby, resembles the original, except that he has shed the beard seen in old photographs. John S. Mosby was a Virginian lawyer who organised a group of Southern gentlemen

against the North soldiery. They constituted a band of rebel raiders, rather like the Maquis of the last war, the French and Belgian patriots who set out to disrupt enemy communications. The Southern gentry were reputed to lead soft lives, but Mosby disproved this by leading his men in daring forays against heavy odds. He was nicknamed Gray Ghost for seeming to appear without warning.

The stories, based mainly on life, are taken from a book, Gray Ghost and Rebels, by Virgil Carlington Jones. Most of the scenes were shot on location in California



Two Union Army officers, captured by Colonel Mosby (Tod Andrews, right) are to be exchanged for a Confederate spy.



The Children's Newspaper, February 22, 1958

# MAN WHO UNLOCKED A TREASURE-HOUSE

## The story of Arnold Dolmetsch

Next Monday, February 24, is the centenary of the birth of Arnold Dolmetsch, great old musician and craftsman whose life work has brought so much delight to present-day audiences.

Radio listeners, musical societies, colleges, and schools can thank Arnold Dolmetsch for his revival of early music, played on the instruments for which it was written—viol, lute, harpsichord, recorder.

BORN in France, the son of a Swiss piano maker, Arnold shared his father's craftsman's interest in ancient European musical instruments. He not only learned to play expertly on the harpsichord, clavichord, lute, viol, and recorder, but also how to make these instruments.

Arnold came to England, became music master at Dulwich College, and joined the Royal College of Music. It was the Director of the Royal College, Sir Charles Gore, who encouraged his interest in the lovely, but almost forgotten airs of Tudor and Jacobean England. His resources led him to the British Museum where he discovered a great quantity of songs and instrumental pieces which had not been played for nearly two centuries.

In the ensuing years he worked at the editing of early music and taught his talented family to play until they formed a unique ensemble of musicians which soon became ever more widely known, thus helping to spread interest in the copies of old instruments so lovingly and skilfully made at the family workshop.

The instruments made at Haslemere, in Surrey, go now to all parts of the world. The famous Haslemere Festival of old music held annually in July at Haslemere was founded by Arnold Dolmetsch in 1925. Who could wish for a finer memorial?

When Arnold died, aged 82, in the second year of the last war, his eldest son Rudolf, a masterly harpsichord player, became head of the

Dolmetsch workshops and also leader of the Haslemere Festival. But during the war Rudolf was drowned at sea, and since then his brother Carl Dolmetsch has been leader. He, too, under his father's guidance, began his musical studies in infancy, and started playing in public at the age of seven. His special instrument is the recorder, and he has become famous all over western Europe and America as the world's finest performer.

Arnold Dolmetsch married a sister of the late Sir Harry Johnston, the famous African explorer, who discovered that small relation of the giraffe, the okapi. Now Mrs. Dolmetsch, aged 82, has written a book about her famous husband, *Personal Recollections of Arnold Dolmetsch*, which was published recently.

His epitaph might well be the words of a great educationist and music-lover, the late Sir Henry Hadow: "He opened the door to a forgotten treasure-house of beauty."

## Africa's newest airport

After five years' work, Africa's newest and most modern airport is almost finished. It is at Embakasi, about eight miles from Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, and is expected to be ready next month.

Planes flying to Kenya during the rainy season have often been diverted to Uganda because the earth runways on Nairobi's old airport were waterlogged.

On the two-mile-long tarmac runways of the new airport the largest airliners will be able to land safely even in the heaviest equatorial rainstorms.

## Tribute to the Kelpie

Australia will be paying special tribute this year to the breed of sheep dog called the Kelpie. Special functions have been arranged to celebrate the centenary of the dog's introduction.

Records show that throughout 1858, when big areas of New South Wales were being opened to sheep, many of the graziers introduced



Reproduced by courtesy of the Australian News and Information Bureau

the Kelpie to help look after the flocks.

The sheep dog used by many of the early settlers was the Scotch Collie, but flocks of sheep became so large that a dog with greater powers of endurance was needed. The Kelpie, part Scotch Collie and part Australian dingo, soon proved to be the answer.

The Kelpie (its name comes from a Scots word for water-spirit) is completely tireless. It can endure the longest day in the blazing sun. It can go without water for a whole day in stifling heat and still keep working. It has keen eyes and notices every movement of sheep.

## THANKS FOR £9000

Workmen of Westmorland County Council received a hearty "thank you" the other day for saving road-users £9000. They had built a bridge on the main London-Glasgow road between Penrith and Scotch Corner in half the scheduled time of six months.

At the re-opening the County Surveyor said: "I estimated that the delay to traffic caused while the bridge was under reconstruction was costing £100 a day. That would be £3000 a month, and thus by completing the job in three months instead of six, we have saved the travelling public £9000."

## Nigger takes a trip

Just after a goods train bound for the north of Scotland had left Louth station, Lincolnshire, it was found that Nigger, the station cat, was missing. A warning telegram was immediately sent, and there was great relief when at last a message came back: "Nigger found. Returning on the 3.55 from Elgin."

Nigger's return trip was something over 800 miles.

## NEW NURSE AT LAMBARENE

As long as she can remember, Monique Eckert has been hearing stories of Lambarené, in French West Africa, where her famous grandfather, Albert Schweitzer, has now spent over 40 years of his remarkable life. As long as she can remember, Monique has longed to be a nurse in the great man's hospital there. And now her dream has come true.

A short time before Christmas Monique received her nursing diplomas in Switzerland and sailed to join her grandfather in Lambarené.

News has now reached Dr. Schweitzer's British friends of her happy beginnings there. The amount of work Dr. Schweitzer still carries out has surprised Monique.

### PET ANTELOPES

Although he no longer takes part in the set routine of his great hospital, somehow he knows all that is going on. He stumps about the grounds doing many odd jobs, and whenever there is no hospital work on hand he is writing in the little wooden room he uses as a study. It was there that Monique was introduced to his pet antelopes. They come up to feed from his hand, and they sit by him while he writes.

Monique herself is busy all day nursing patients, who delight in the fact that a grand-daughter of the "great doctor" has come out to care for them and to be with her grandfather. But when off duty in the evening, she has dinner with all

the available staff. Dr. Schweitzer likes to have one meal a day with all the staff, and he sits at the centre of a long table which is always carefully laid, with clean white cloth and sparkling silver and china.

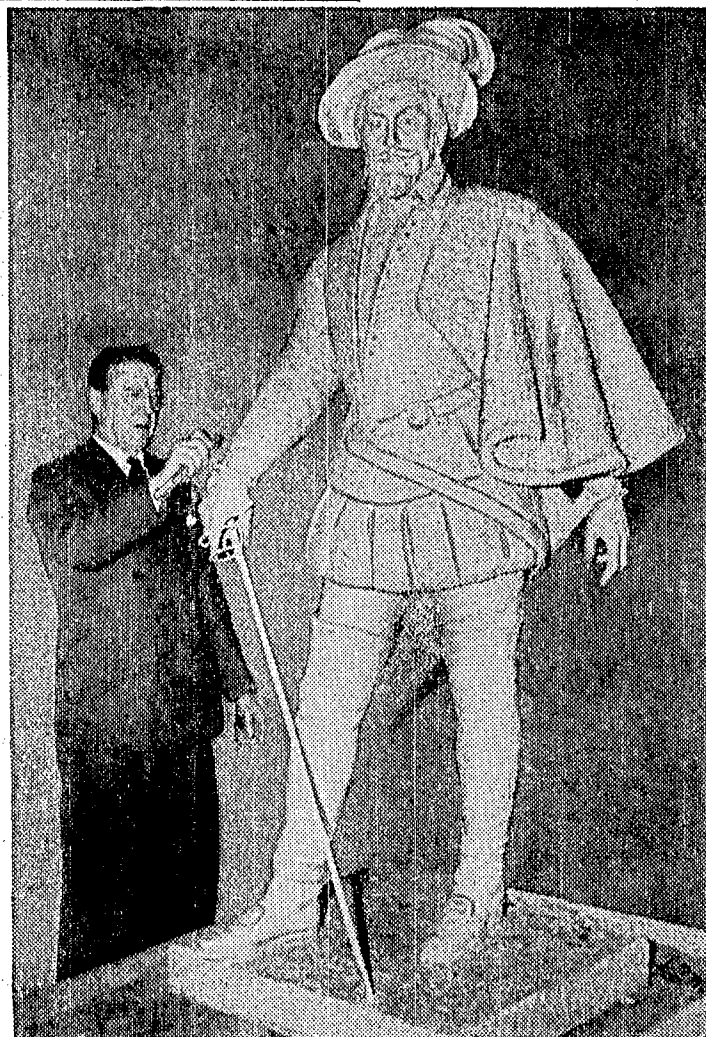
Last Christmas, to welcome Monique to Lambarené, the staff party was particularly merry. The doctor's old sun helmet came out, as it always does at this time, for out of it the staff draw lots for their presents, all of which must be home-made.

A few weeks ago Dr. Schweitzer was 83, and Monique was there for his birthday party, at which he received telegrams of congratulations from all over the world. Replying to the congratulations from British friends, Dr. Schweitzer has replied, "I am 83, a bit older but still young."

His friends think that having young Monique by his side is helping this great servant of humanity to keep his youthful spirit which is still an inspiration to all the world.

## Elizabethan Sea Dog

This statue of Sir Walter Raleigh is to be set up in London this year. Commissioned by a group of Friends of the English Speaking Union, it is to commemorate the 350th anniversary of Jamestown, Virginia. Here we see the sculptor, Mr. William McMillan, putting the finishing touches.



San Allan

## LOCOSPOTTERS' EXCURSIONS

Wednesday, April 16th

From Victoria to Ashford Works and Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway, including a tour of Ashford Works: Special train on RHD to Hythe and Dungeness. "Schools" Class locomotive. Fare: 15/- (Under 16) (Adult: 25/6.)

Thursday, April 10th

From Paddington to Swindon and Eastleigh Works, including a tour of both. Refreshment facilities. Fare: 15/- (Under 16) (Adult: 25/6.)

Send s.a.e. for tickets or more information, to

IAN ALLAN LOCOSPOTTERS' CLUB  
(Dept. CN9), HAMPTON COURT, SURREY



IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER OF THIS GREAT CLUB, SEND 1/3 AND A STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TOGETHER WITH THIS ADVERTISEMENT, YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD, OFFICIAL BADGE, PENCIL, ETC. BY RETURN.





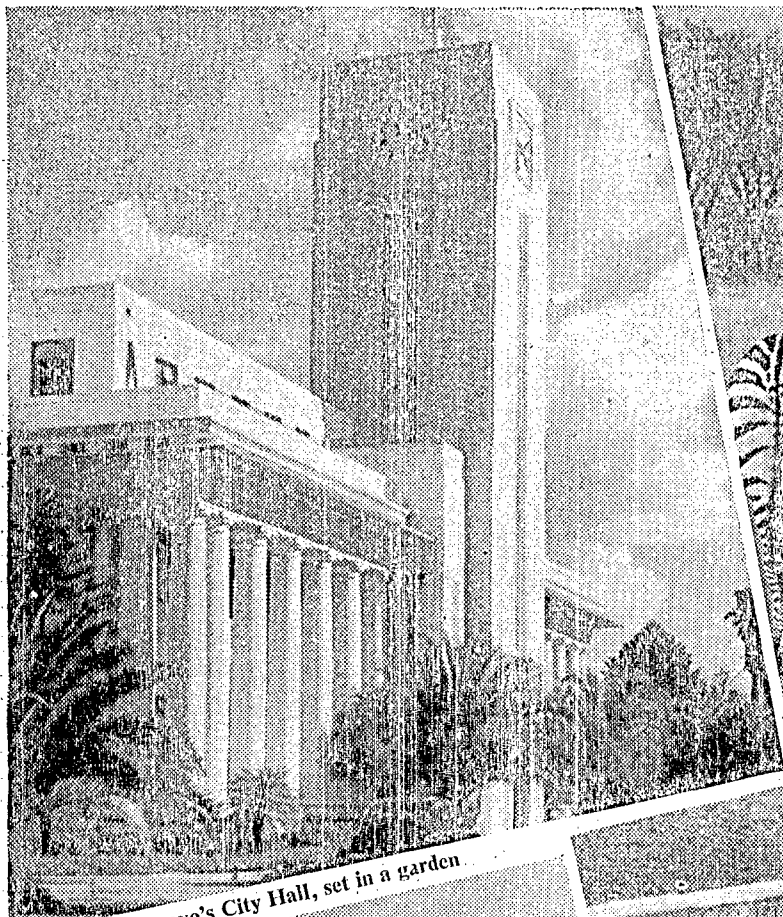
# Facts about

ONE of the first of this region was David Livingstone, who discovered Victoria Falls in 1855. Cecil Rhodes, a pioneer of white South Africa, is named after the first settlement.

UNTIL 1923, both Northern Rhodesia and Southern Rhodesia were administered by Cecil Rhodes. In 1923, Southern Rhodesia was granted self-government. In 1933, Northern Rhodesia was granted self-government. In 1933, the British Government decided to link the two territories together. In 1933, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was created. (The Federation's arms are reproduced on the right.)

TOGETHER they form a country of 300,000 square miles, bigger than South Africa, Rhodesia, and a size of the United Kingdom. The population is 7,000,000, of whom 250,000 are Europeans, largely of British descent.

Many of the photographs in this magazine are by courtesy of the High Commission for Rhodesia and Nyasaland.



Bulawayo's City Hall, set in a garden.



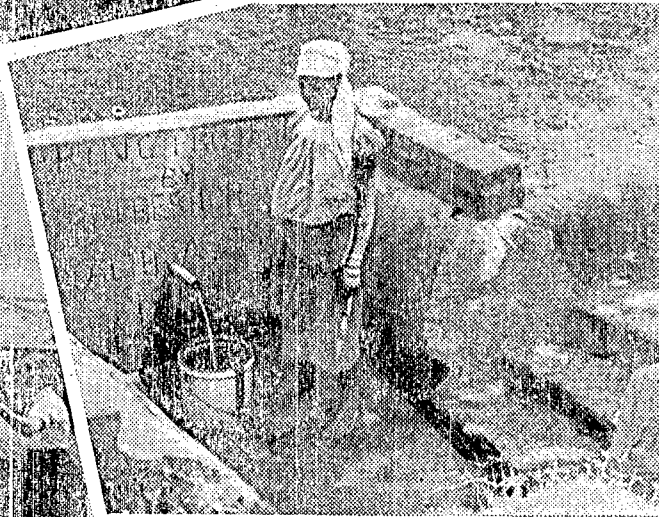
Zebra crossing in Livingstone Game Park



Cecil Rhodes at Salisbury



Country dancing in a girls' school at Broken Hill

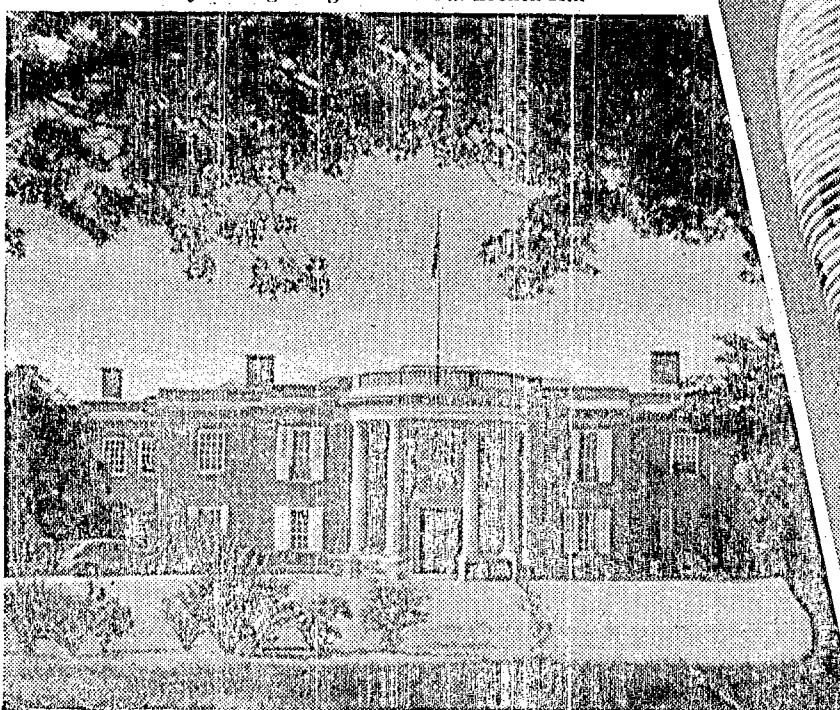


Clean walls protect a village spring

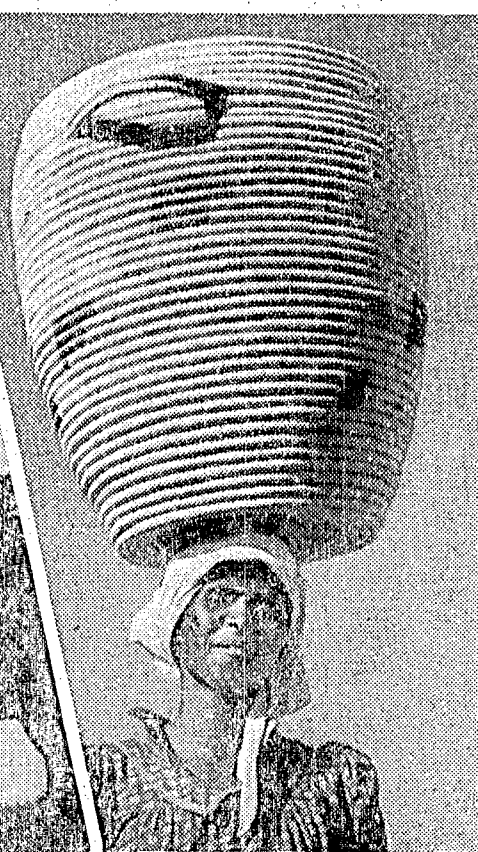


Farm worker with home-made hoe

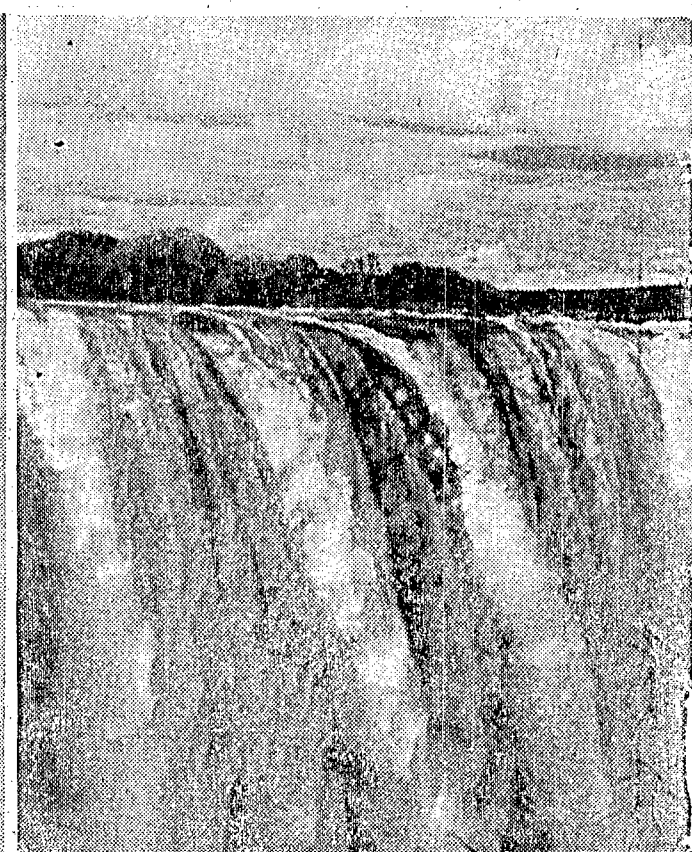
## COMMONWEALTH PANO



Government House at Lusaka, capital of Northern Rhodesia



Balancing the big basket



Waters that thunder. The mighty Victoria Falls on the



6, February 22, 1958



## Rhodesia

men to explore southern Africa long before it was settled. It was in 1855 that the famous Dr. David Livingstone arrived. But the settlement was after whom the country was named. It was in 1890 that the first British settlers arrived.

In 1933 Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia were added to the British Empire. In 1953 Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland were joined together to form the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. (The coat-of-arms is shown above.)

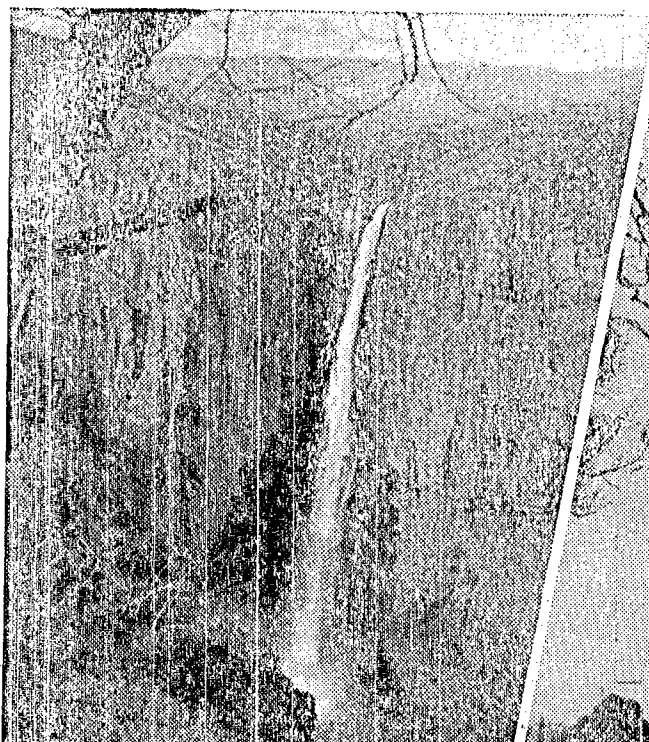
The Federation covers one vast area of 485,000 square miles. It is the largest of the British Commonwealth of Nations. It is a little over 1,000 miles long and about five times as wide as it is high.

It is a little over 1,000 miles long and about five times as wide as it is high. It is a little over 1,000 miles long and about five times as wide as it is high.

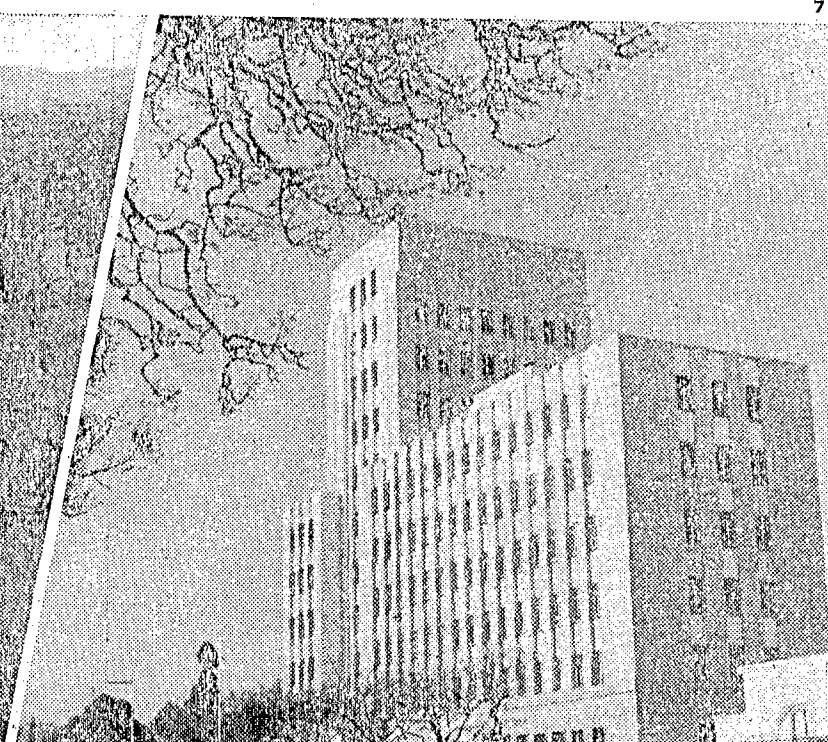
Photos are reproduced by permission of the Commissioner for the Federation.



Livingstone at Victoria Falls



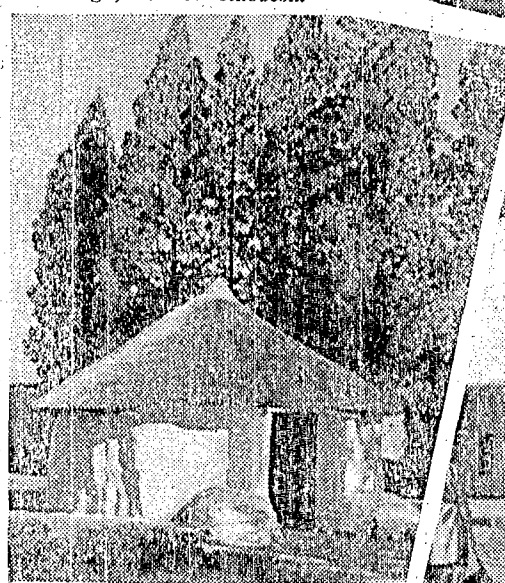
Kalambo Falls, 726 feet high, Northern Rhodesia



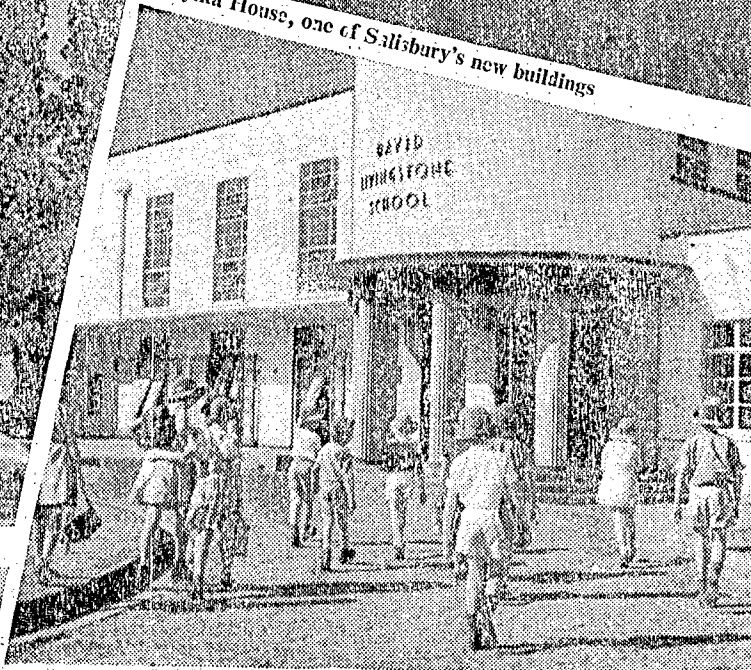
Tanganyika House, one of Salisbury's new buildings



Sackful of maize, one of the chief crops

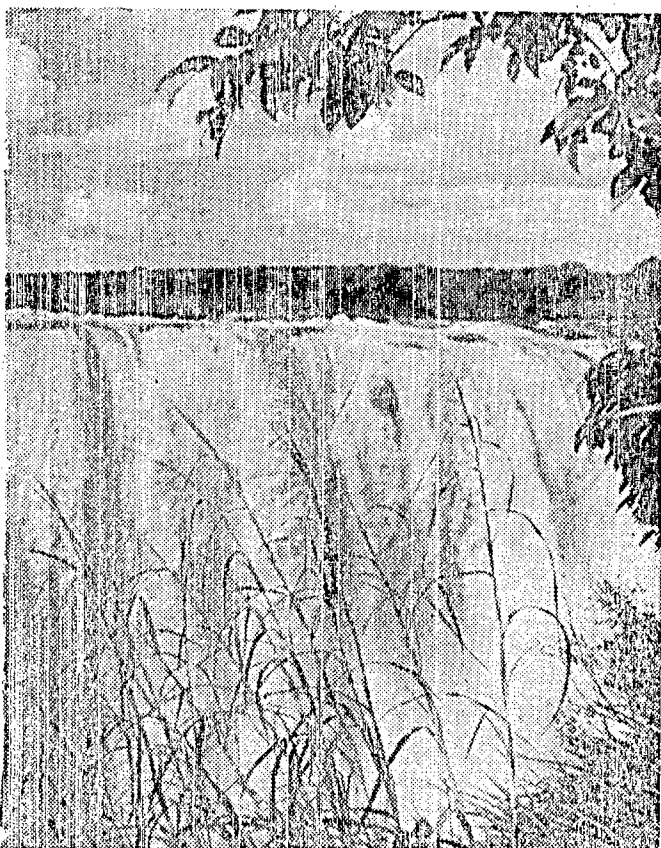


Cecil Rhodes' hut in Bulawayo

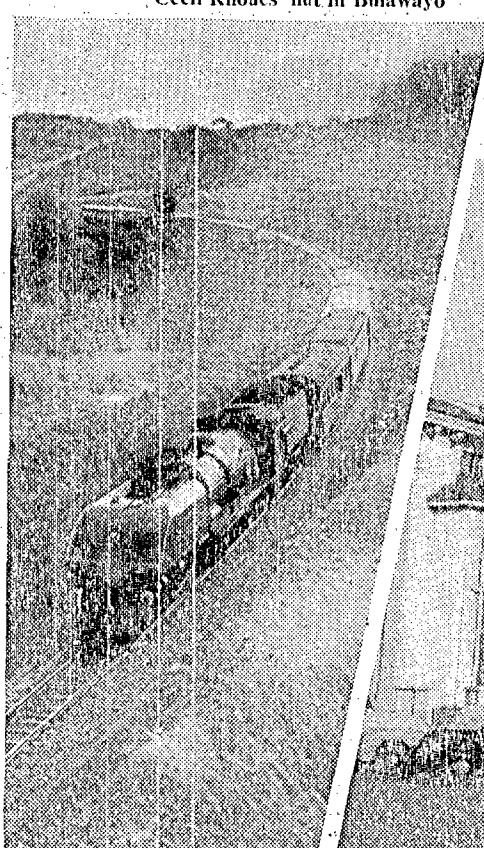


Time for school at Salisbury

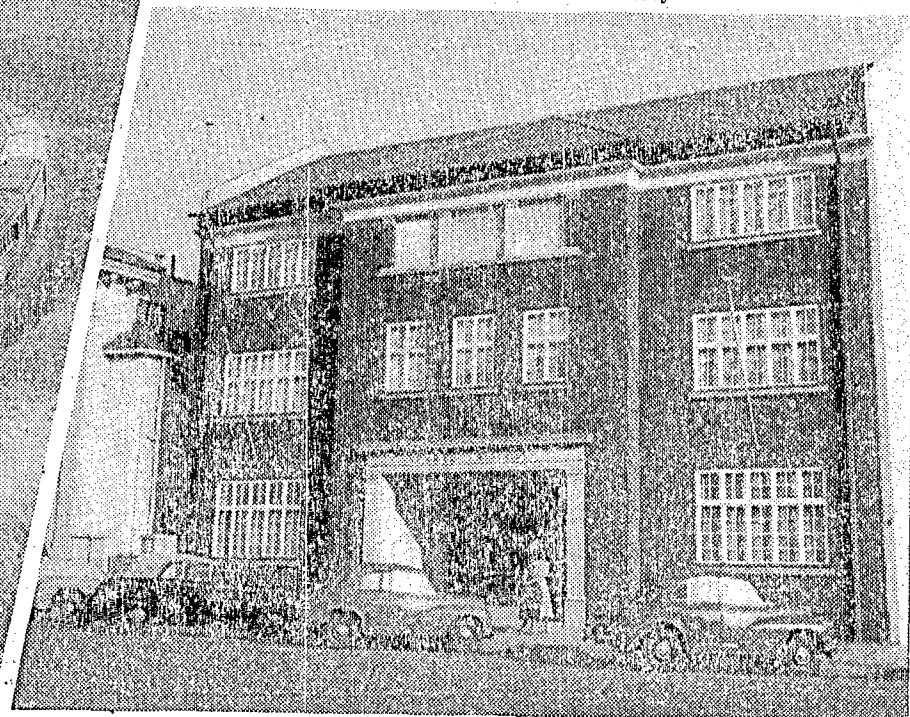
## RAMA—RHODESIA



Zambesi River—the most awe-inspiring sight in Africa



On the way to Bulawayo



The Federal Parliament meets here in Salisbury, pending new premises a few miles to the west



## Scotland reclaims her little Sahara

On the south shore of the Moray Firth, in the north of Scotland, is a desert waste called the Culbin Sands, sometimes known as Scotland's little Sahara. It has been useless for more than 250 years, but now, thanks to the Forestry Commission, is producing thousands of tons of pit-props and telegraph poles a year. Over 7000 acres have been reclaimed, and there are fewer than 30 acres left to be planted. The dry desert has become a green forest.

### GRANARY OF MORAY

Surprisingly enough, the area was once so fertile that it was known as the Granary of Moray. Today, the only traces of the prosperous farms and crofts which formed the estate of Culbin are the chimney-pots of farmhouses buried in the sand which the shifting dunes reveal from time to time.

Scottish legends attribute the disaster which overwhelmed Culbin to the devil, but the real explanation is quite simple. To the west of the estate there had always been sand-dunes on which grew marram grass. The local farmers did not realise that it was this grass which held the sand together, and that if they pulled it up to make thatch for their houses nothing would then be left to prevent the dunes from drifting.

### DISASTROUS GALE

The sand started blowing in, but even then nobody bothered unduly, for the soil was rich, and some farmers believed the sand actually improved its texture, especially at sowing time. However, a terrible gale which raged in the autumn of 1694 shifted a great deal of the sand, and within a few months the whole of the estate was covered over, leaving a barren wilderness.

The disaster shocked many people in Scotland, of course, and

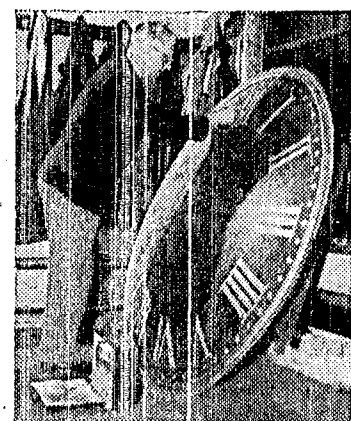
the following year the Scottish Parliament passed a law forbidding the pulling up of marram grass for thatching purposes, a law which has never been repealed.

The Forestry Commission's success in getting trees to grow under desert-like conditions is a great achievement. On the open dunes the sand had to be fixed before young trees could be successfully planted. Otherwise the trees would soon have been buried or else the blowing away of the sand would have exposed their roots and caused them to die.

To fix the sand, the dunes were thatched with branches of broom, birch or conifers, and this has also had the advantage of keeping in the moisture, an important consideration in an area where the rainfall is low.

All the trees which have been planted at Culbin are pines.

### New look for an old face



This copper clock face was first put in place when the St. Albans Clock Tower was built in 1402. Taken down in 1898, it is now to be replaced. Here we see the regilding of the face, which will be illuminated when it again takes its place in the Tower.

## MARKET PLACE WANTED

Wainfleet, near Skegness, wants to buy its own Market Place which, up till now, has been owned by the Duchy of Lancaster. This project is to help celebrate the 500th anniversary of the granting of the Market Charter by Henry VI, and the Parish Council has written to the Queen and the Duchy of Lancaster about it.

The rent payable by the Market Company is said to be only two shillings and sixpence a year.

William of Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester, first headmaster of Eton, and founder of Magdalen College, Oxford, was born in the little town. He was Lord Chancellor of England under Henry VI, and it was doubtless the King's regard for William which influenced the granting of the market charter to his native place.

## All in a nutshell

Why should almond shells be found under a plum tree? That was the mystery which puzzled C N reader Carolyn Emmerton and her mother, whose house is at Hampton, Middlesex.

They solved it by keeping close watch on a winter visitor, a woodpecker. During the very cold weather the bird perched on an almond tree near the house. Knocking a nut to the ground, the bird then recovered it and flew to a plum tree at the bottom of the garden to enjoy its meal.

## HE FLEW WITH THE WRIGHTS

The fourth Baron Egerton, who has died in Kenya at the age of 83, had several claims to fame. He flew with Wilbur and Orville Wright and helped them in their early gliding experiments. He was also well known in this country for early work on wireless.

He was the biggest tea-planter in Kenya, and also a sheep farmer.



## Cars for export by the hundred

This great collection of cars was seen at Dagenham Dock in Essex recently. They are for export to Canada and the U.S.

## HOUSE WHERE IKE WAS BORN

The little town of Denison in the north-east of Texas, proud of possessing "the house that Ike was born in", is getting ready for a flood of visitors this summer. In fact, Denison hopes to rival the Eisenhower Museum at Abilene, Kansas, as a shrine of the great General's admirers.

It seems that when he entered West Point Military Academy as a young soldier in 1911 Dwight Eisenhower mistakenly entered his birthplace as Tyler in Texas, one of two towns where his parents lived before settling at Abilene in Kansas. This was perhaps not surprising as he was only a very small baby when he left Denison.

So when Eisenhower became famous as America's wartime general the people of Tyler were jubilant, but they could not point to the actual house where the great Ike had been born.

Then Fred Conn, publisher of the Denison Herald, got busy. He had a hunch, he says, that Eisenhower the great general might become a great President of the United States and all America would flock to see his birthplace.

He discovered an old directory

of the town and there on a torn page was the name of "David J. Eisenhower" described as a "wiper with Katy railroad." He soon found the old house, on a corner site, dilapidated and unpainted, but with a date going back to 1883. He managed to check his information by finding the name of the landlord. Then he bought the house and gave it to the town.

Just before he became President for the first time, Ike came down to Denison and formally acknowledged that he had been born in Denison on October 14, 1890. He had not stayed there long though, for the next year the family moved to Abilene.

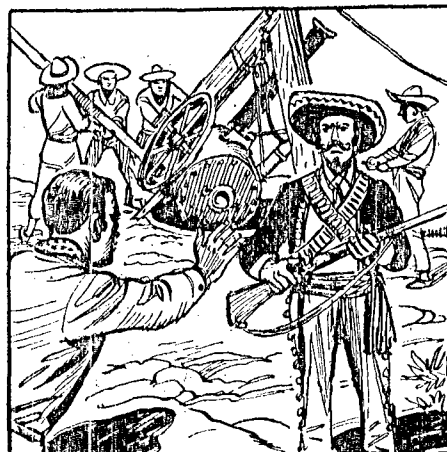
So the folk of Denison looked at the shabby old place and decided to give it more than a lick of paint. A number of other old houses round about were bought and demolished, and the Eisenhower home was fitted out with the furniture of the 1880's.

This coming summer Denison is prepared to receive thousands of visitors. They will want to see just where this great man in their history began life in a humble home in a small town.

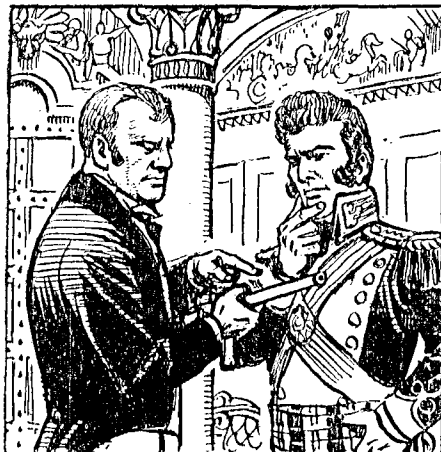
## FATHER OF THE LOCOMOTIVE—the amazing story of Richard Trevithick (10)



Trevithick arrived at Lima in 1817 and was warmly welcomed by the Spanish Viceroy (Peru then belonged to Spain) and by all the leading citizens. They had been vastly impressed by the way his engines had reduced the water level in the mines. At a banquet in the inventor's honour, the Viceroy praised "Don Ricardo's" splendid achievements. Another grandee wanted to erect a silver statue of him.



Trevithick went to the mines to supervise the working of his engines. For a time all went well, then his usual bad luck returned. The Peruvians revolted against Spanish rule, and a devastating war of independence began. The rebels, associating "Don Ricardo" with the hated Spanish government, raided the mines, and the inventor was powerless to prevent them from throwing his engines down the shafts.



He fled to Lima where Simon Bolivar, the rebel leader famous in South America as The Liberator, made the inventor work for his army, and forcibly "borrowed" all his money, 20,000 dollars (which was never repaid). Bolivar's cavalry were short of weapons, and Trevithick invented a brass carbine which could be turned out in large quantities. At length Bolivar allowed him to return to the mines.



In spite of having no machinery, Trevithick got a copper mine at Caxatambo working again. The miners had brought up ore worth £24,000, of which the Cornishman's share would have been a handsome one, when Royal Spanish troops drove away Bolivar's soldiers who were guarding the mines. All Trevithick's workmen fled, and none of the valuable ore could be transported to the coast.

What can Trevithick do now that the Spaniards have become his enemies? See next week's instalment



# SECRET OF THE GORGE

By Malcolm Saville

Jenny Harman and Tom Ingles, both members of the Lone Pine Club, have gone to a sale of secondhand furniture in Ludlow with Jenny's father. The latter buys a large, old-fashioned sofa that has come from Bringewood Manor, formerly the home of Nicholas Whiteflower and his aunt, which has been sold up. Soon after the sale two strange men try to buy back the sofa from Mr. Harman, offering him a big price for it, but he will not sell. The sofa is taken to Jenny's home, and there she and Tom start to clean it. In the space between the leather seat and the back Jenny pulls out a packet of faded sheets of paper.

## 5. Visit to the Whitelowers

"My word, Jen," Tom Ingles gasped as he looked over Jenny's shoulder at the sheets of yellowing paper she held. "What a find! What is it? Looks like a letter."

"It is a letter, or part of one," Jenny replied. "There's no date or address but it sounds very tragic—"

She gulped and then began to read:

"I have done what you asked and now you have failed me. You have gone away. You promised to come here. I waited and waited but you did not come and they say you are ill and have gone away for a week. Why didn't you tell me you were going? Were you afraid? I am afraid now. I have been questioned twice, but my lady trusts me. I am afraid of the detective. I am afraid of his eyes. They say that the General will soon send him away because he wants no scandal with his guests, but I am sure the man watches me as if he knew I had them safe. They have searched our rooms . . .

"That man has been here to my room again. I only just had time to hide this paper. We are all to meet together in the hall tonight. I think it is a trick. I believe he will search this room when I leave it. If I knew where you were I would post them to you. If you had not promised to take me away from this place I would put it back in my lady's room again, but oh, Harry, they are so beautiful. Like ice-cold fire. I have worn them twice. They are more beautiful on my neck than on hers— Now I am afraid again. It has rained all day. The storm is worse. I can hear the river roaring in the gorge.

"If only you were here. I should not be afraid. I do not know where to leave the necklace now. Why did you go away?

Where can I put it so that he will not find it? I dare not leave it here in the house. I shall go out now and put it where the water . . ."

"That's all," Jenny finished. "The writing sort of tails off as if the writer was interrupted or frightened. I'm sure a woman wrote this letter and she must have been very frightened, don't you think so, Tom?"

"Yes, I do. I wonder what she means when she talks of the necklace and the detective watching her. You don't think that—Jen!—could this be a letter written by someone who had stolen a valuable necklace?"

"Oh, Tom. How awful! What are we going to do about it? We must tell someone. We can't keep this to ourselves. Who shall we tell?"

## Job for Lone Piners

Tom Ingles looked at Jenny.

"This is just the kind of thing for the Lone Piners to handle," he suggested quietly. "And we ought to see if we can meet soon and discuss it."

Jenny was all for this and said so. "But we must do something now," she pleaded. "It might be days before we can hold a full meeting of the Club. David and the twins will be coming down to



"That's all," Jenny finished. "The writing sort of tails off . . ."

Witchend soon, but Peter will be at Hatcholt now. Tom, we must do something. You must go over to Witchend tomorrow and bring Peter over here."

"But, Jen. What good . . .?" Tom protested, but he was quickly interrupted. Jenny would not be denied and Tom knew how futile it would be to stand against Jenny when she was like that.

"Don't you see. This letter is vital. It belongs to the Whiteflowers and Nicholas and his aunt are living with Mrs. Quickseed in the village. They are poor and terribly unhappy. They once

owned Bringewood Manor where this sofa came from, but now they haven't any more money and the Manor has been sold and is being pulled down."

Jenny was only quoting something a lot of people already knew. When she had been at the sale only that day she had seen Nicholas Whiteflower and his aunt standing near. Jenny had also overheard a woman telling her neighbour about them. Several times during the past few days she had seen the boy in the village and knew that he was staying in a cottage owned by a Mrs. Quickseed. The boy always looked lonely and unhappy and that was enough to arouse Jenny's sympathies.

## Something big

Now here in her hand she held something which she felt sure rightly belonged to Nicholas Whiteflower as he was the last of the Whiteflower family.

"All right. I agree it looks urgent," Tom said. "And I can't help feeling that it's something bigger than either of us knows. You remember those two men at the sale this afternoon? They were annoyed your father bought this sofa, and they offered him a big price to buy it from him, which he refused. Why did they want this piece of furniture from Bringewood Manor so badly?"

"Because they thought there might be something hidden in it, as there was," Jenny said breathlessly. "But what does the letter mean, Tom? That's what I want to know. Nicholas Whiteflower and his aunt should be able to tell us."

Before Tom left Barton that night Jenny had persuaded him to let Peter know all about their discovery and to bring her over first thing in the morning. And then he was to ask his uncle to give him another day off.

## Peter joins in

The following morning Jenny was relieved to see Peter and Tom cycling down the street towards the shop. She ran out to meet them.

"Oh, I'm so glad you managed it, Tom," she cried and turned to greet Peter. Peter was 16 and taller than the other two. She was slim and upright, with a clear, tanned skin and blue eyes. Her hair was fair and worn in coiled plaits and she had poise and dignity rare in one so young.

"Hullo, Jenny. It is good to see you again," Peter smiled. She was very fond of Jenny. "Tom has told me all about it and I think you were right. We must do something about it at once."

The three Lone Piners wasted no more time. Jenny went indoors and got the letter she and Tom had found the previous day and then they walked quickly to old Mrs. Quickseed's cottage about a quarter of a mile from the village.

"Now we shall know what it all means," Jenny whispered as they stopped outside the gate. "You go in first, Tom. My knees feel all wobbly, and don't leave us by ourselves whatever you do."

Tom nodded and led the way down the short garden path to the front door. He gave a firm double knock and stood back.

They waited a minute or two and then there came the sound of footsteps inside.

"Mrs. Quickseed is a bit queer," Jenny whispered. "I think she's a witch. She keeps lots and lots of cats."

"Keeping cats doesn't make you a witch," Tom commented with a grin. "Anyway, here she is."

The handle of the front door was turned, the door opened and Mrs. Quickseed peered suspiciously out at the three youngsters, while three cats came purring round her legs.

"Well? What is it you want?" she asked. "Speak up."

Jenny spoke up.

"Oh— Good morning, Mrs. Quickseed. Please we want to see Nicholas Whiteflower very urgently. And Miss Whiteflower, too. It's difficult to explain but it's private."

Before Mrs. Quickseed could reply someone opened the door of the living room on the right of the small passage. It was Miss Whiteflower and she stood there smiling.

"Thank you, Mrs. Quickseed. Will you please ask our guests to come in."

Mrs. Quickseed scowled, scooped up the three cats pushing round her ankles, and stood aside for the three startled Lone Piners to come in.

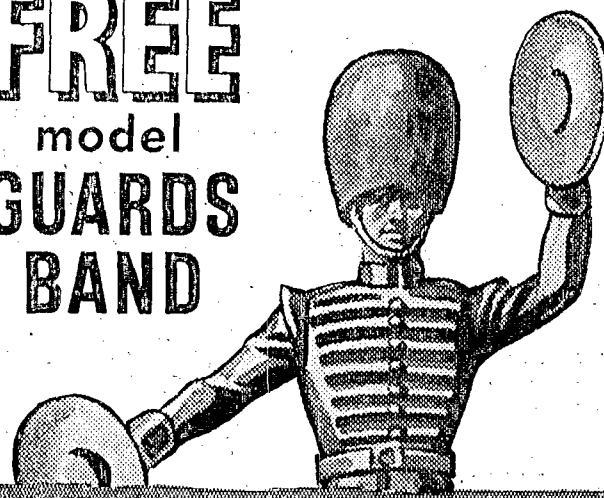
Miss Whiteflower welcomed them into the living room.

"You seem to know our names so perhaps you will tell me yours." She shook hands with Jenny. "I saw you yesterday in Ludlow, my dear."

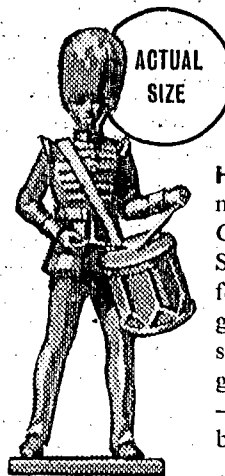
Jenny liked Miss Whiteflower at once.

Continued on page 10

# FREE model GUARDS BAND



Look! Six Model Guards Bandmen in bright scarlet plastic—and they can be yours FREE! Parade them, march them in and out of battle, let them lead your toy soldiers!



ACTUAL  
SIZE

How to get them There's one Bandsman free in every packet of Kellogg's Corn Flakes like the one shown below.

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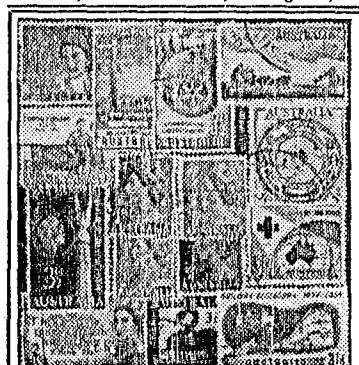
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## LOOKING AT THE SKY

# IS PLUTO A "GATE-CRASHER" IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM?

THAT weird little world Pluto, the most distant in the Solar System, is now at its nearest to us for this year. Its position at the present time is in that region of the constellation of Leo, the Lion, indicated by the star-map. This region is now high in the eastern sky in the evening and may be readily recognised by the distinctive arrangement of its six brightest stars, which has caused it to be known popularly as the "Sickle of Leo."

It is to the left, or east of Zeta, that Pluto is at present situated, the exact position being indicated by a X on the map, because Pluto is too small and far-distant to be seen without a powerful telescope of at least 12 inches aperture.

The fact that Pluto is just now at its nearest makes but little difference except when it is looked for with such a telescope; Pluto's average distance is about 3700 million miles, nearly 1000 million miles farther than the average distance of Neptune, its nearest planet.

Pluto was discovered on March 13, 1930, by Dr. V. M. Slipher at Professor Lowell's Observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona. The search for Pluto had gone on for 15 years, but Professor Lowell unfortunately did not live to see the

## SECRET OF THE GORGE

Continued from page 9

"Yes, that's right. My name's Jenny Harman. My dad keeps the shop and he bought a sofa at the sale yesterday. Of course we didn't know it was yours then, but a most terrific thing has happened and we thought that we must tell you..."

"Thank you, Jenny. But please, first introduce your friends." She looked at the other girl who was standing just behind, and Miss Whiteflower saw that here was someone who would soon be a very beautiful woman.

### Introductions

"I'm Petronella Sterling, but everyone calls me Peter," she smiled. "I live with my father on the other side of the Long Mynd. This is Tom Ingles who lives with his uncle quite close to me."

Miss Whiteflower glanced towards Nicholas. The young boy was standing with his back to them.

"Nicholas, come and shake hands with your new friends," she said. He did so but with rather bad grace and then returned to the window again. Miss Whiteflower tried not to look annoyed and the others exchanged meaning glances.

"Perhaps you will tell us why you have come, Jenny?" Miss Whiteflower invited.

"Of course," Jenny looked meaningfully towards the door. "I suppose it is quite safe to speak here. I mean, our news is very private and very important."

To be continued

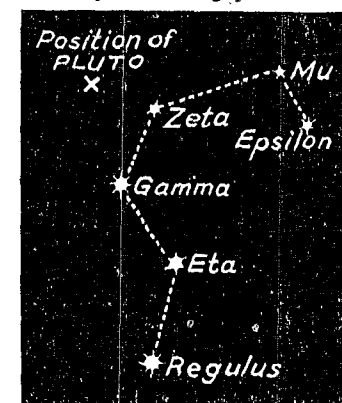
culmination of so much effort and research. When found in the constellation of Gemini, Pluto was not far from where Professor Lowell had calculated it would be.

The reason Pluto was not discovered sooner was because a large and massive planet was expected, comparable in size with Neptune and Uranus. It seemed that only such a big planet could

gests that of a "gate-crasher" into the Solar System. For Pluto's orbit comes within that of Neptune and so crosses it twice during a revolution of Pluto round the Sun, that is in 247½ years. No other planet crosses any orbit in this fashion; moreover the orbit of Pluto is very elongated and tilted at so different an angle that it does not follow the Path of the Zodiac, as do the other planets.

These circumstances, together with evidence of a rough surface as if composed of a dark basaltic type of rock and heavy meteoric iron, the absence of any evidence of water, or atmosphere, and the great density of the materials which must compose Pluto (to account for the planet's immense gravitational pull), all point to the fact that Pluto is a burnt-out sun that has entered our Solar System from Outer Space.

G. F. M.



cause the peculiarities and variations of speed of Neptune in its orbit. But none could be found. Instead, a relatively small body was revealed on a photographic plate.

By its subsequent movements it was proved to be the long-sought world. But the problem at once arose of how could such a small planet, with a diameter only about half that of the Earth, affect such a great world as Neptune, with a diameter over four times that of the Earth and 1000-million miles away.

Subsequent research has shown that Pluto is totally different in constitution and orbit to that of all the other planets and their satellites; indeed, its orbit sug-

## Tea with the Lord Mayor of London

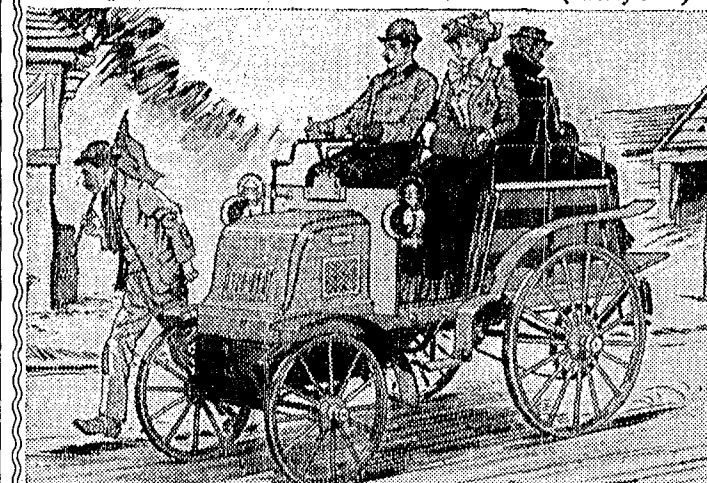
Twenty-five schoolchildren recently had tea with the Lord Mayor of London. They had all written prizewinning essays in a competition run by the printing, paper, and allied trades. The subject of the essay was the 1957 Lord Mayor's Show, and nearly 6000 schoolchildren in Greater London competed.

The boys and girls were shown the great sights of the Mansion House, and then, after tea with the Lord Mayor and his family, they were presented with their prizes.

It was the end of a day which had included a visit to the Amalgamated Press works, where the CN is printed.

## OLD-TIME CARS

(A series of twenty-four)



No. 5. THE 1896 DAIMLER

GOTTLOB DAIMLER spent some time in Coventry with the English firm which acquired the rights for his engine and became the Daimler Co. But because the law required a man carrying a red flag to walk in front of any motor vehicle on the highway, it was impractical to go

ahead making cars in England. However, late in 1896, this law was abolished and Daimler soon forged ahead. The car shown above had a two-cylinder engine which gave a speed of about 15-20 m.p.h. It was chain-driven and ran on iron wheels.



# PUZZLE PARADE

## ONE-LETTER WORDS

Answers to the following clues can all be expressed by one letter. Can you guess what they are?

A PART of the body; an insect; a great body of water; a vegetable; a measure; a bird; exist; a beverage; a question; yourself; line of waiting people.

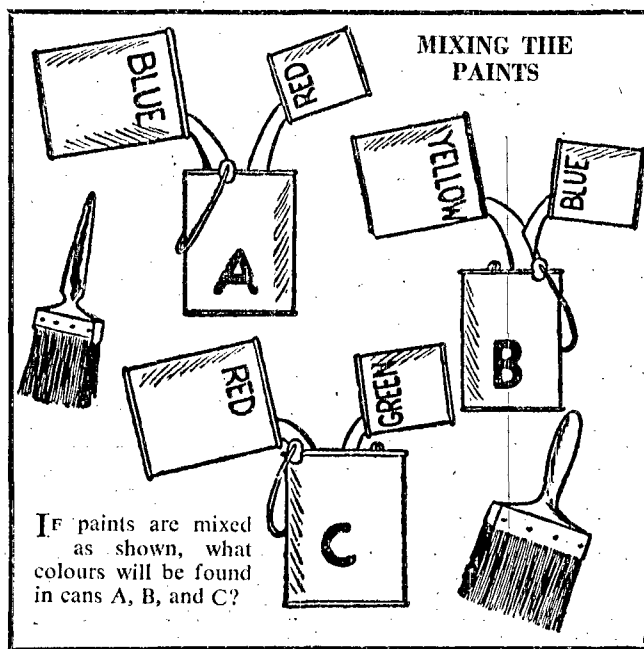
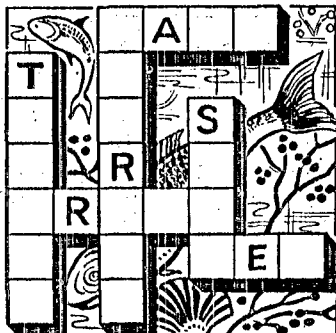
## MUSICAL MIX-UP

The name of a musical instrument and a composer have been mixed up in each of the jumbled words below, although the letters are in the right order. Here is an example: VMIOOZLIARNT is made up of VIOLIN and MOZART. Now try to sort out those below.

PIBAANCOH  
THRAUNMDPEELT  
COHOBPOIEN  
BRDRAUHMS  
WAHGANNREPR

## CATCH THESE

By correctly filling in the spaces you will find the names of six well-known fish.



If paints are mixed as shown, what colours will be found in cans A, B, and C?

## FORTY-FIVE

DIVIDE 45 into four parts so that if two be added to the first, two subtracted from the second, the third multiplied by two, and the fourth divided by two, the result will be the same in each case.

## WHAT AM I?

To the letter that is a vegetable. Add the letter that is a tree. Twice the letter that is a drink, A "question" last will be. My whole is a substance known to all, And is used to fill cracks in the wall.

## JUST A FEW WORDS

- B Incoherent means rambling; not consistent in thought or speech. (From Latin *in-*, not, *coherere*, to stick together.)
- A To digress is to depart from the main subject; to introduce irrelevant matter. (From Latin *digressus*—*di-*, aside, and *gradi*, to step.)
- B Ignominious means deserving loss of good name or marked with public disgrace. (From Latin *ignominia*—*in-*, not, and *glomen*, name.)
- C Jeopardy means hazard, danger. (From French *jeu parti*, a divided or even game.)
- C Redress is relief; amends; compensation for abuses or injuries. (From *re-*, again, and Old French *dresser*, to prepare.)
- B A fanatic is a person frantically or excessively enthusiastic (originally, on religious subjects). (From Latin *fanaticus* belonging to a temple—*fanum*, temple.)

## FIND THE CANS

The answer to each of the following clues begins with the letters CAN.

- Artificial waterway.  
Cambridge University graduate.  
Coarse cloth.  
Deep ravine.  
One seeking election.  
A narrative poem set to music.  
A small round variety of melon.  
A truss in a bridge.

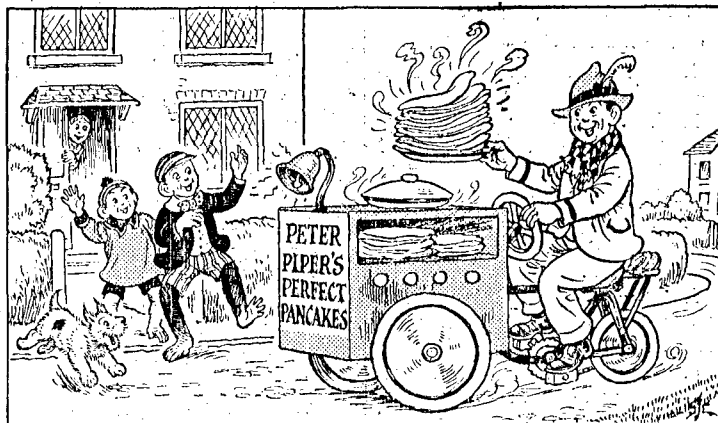
## ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

- One-letter word. I—eye, B—bee, C—sea, P—pea, L—ell, J—jay, R—are, T—tea, Y—why, U—you, Q—queue.  
Musical mix-up. Piano—Bach, Trumpet—Handel, Oboe—Chopin, Drum—Brahms, Harp—Wagner.  
Catch these. Across. Hake, Brill, Eel. Down. Turbot, Herring, Sole.  
Forty-five.  $8+2=10$ ,  $12-2=10$ ,  $5 \times 2=10$ ,  $20 \div 2=10$ .  
45

## LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

- Find the cans. Canal, Cantab, canvas, canyon, candidate, cantata, cantaloup, cantilever.  
What am I? Potty.  
Mixing the paints. A—purple, B—green, C—brown.

## JACKO GETS HIS PANCAKE AFTER ALL



Mother Jacko had quite forgotten it was Pancake Day, much to Jacko's horror. If there was one thing he really loved it was hot pancakes with piles of sugar and oceans of lemon juice. "Too bad of Mother to forget the flour and things," Jacko grumbled to Baby. He was doing his best to forget pancakes—and finding it awfully hard—when there came a loud ringing of a bicycle bell in the street. "Quick, Baby," cried Jacko, "it's Mr. Piper with a pile of perfect pancakes. Saved again!"

## JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in *italics*. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

(Answers are given in column 2)

- What you say is quite *incoherent*.  
A—Unbelievable.  
B—Rambling.  
C—False.
- He is constantly *digressing*.  
A—Wandering from the point.  
B—Committing a sin.  
C—Sinking lower.
- I left the party *ignominiously*.  
A—Without revealing my name.  
B—In disgrace.  
C—At full speed.
- Her fortune is in *jeopardy*.  
A—Disputed in law.  
B—In safe keeping.  
C—In danger.
- We have no *redress*.  
A—Permanent home.  
B—Change of clothes.  
C—Compensation.
- I fear he is quite a *fanatic*.  
A—Almost an invalid.  
B—Over-enthusiastic.  
C—Imagines strange happenings.

## LUCKY DIP

### SPOT THE . . .

ROE DEER, smallest and shyest of our three British species of deer. An average sized buck is just over two feet high and weighs about 50



lb. In winter its coat is a greyish-brown, but in summer becomes a lovely russet. Face and muzzle are beautifully marked with black and white.

The roe deer is one of our oldest native mammals.

### TRICK ARITHMETIC

TAKE any number not exceeding £11 19s. 10d. and with the pence less than the number of pounds. Deduct from it the same figures reversed; then add the result to the figures of the result reversed. The answer will always be the same—£12 18s. 11d.

Here are some examples:

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
10 18 6	3 2 1
6 18 10	1 2 3
3 19 8	1 19 10
8 19 3	10 19 1
12 18 11	12 18 11

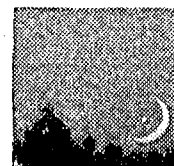
Now try some for yourself.

### HOWLER

THE male goose is known as a geyser.

### OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening no planets are visible. In the morning Venus, Mars, and Saturn are in the south-east, and Jupiter is in the south-west. Our picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at six o'clock on the evening of Thursday, February 20.



## BEDTIME TALE

### BILLY TRIES TO HELP

DADDY was grumbling as he brought a bucketful of coal into the front room. "One thing I must do this spring is to move the coal bunker nearer to the back door," he said to Mummy. "Every time it rains I get soaked filling this bucket."

Billy thought no more about the remark until a few days later when the coalman came to the back gate. "Hullo, Billy," he said. "Here's your coal at last."

He began walking towards the bunker when Billy called him. "Mr. Coalman," he said. "I don't think my Daddy wants the coal in the bunker. Would you put it here?"

"Are you sure?" asked the coalman.

"Oh, yes," replied Billy. "He says he is going to move the bunker."

So the coalman dumped the coal where Billy pointed. Five more

sackfuls were all emptied in the same place.

A little later Mummy and Daddy returned from the shops and Billy opened the door to them.

"You won't have to go right down the garden now, Daddy," he cried excitedly. "Come and see."

Daddy followed him to the back door—and almost fell over the pile of coal as he opened it. Billy had asked the coalman to put the coal by the back door!

Daddy looked at the pile in horror. Then he said quietly: "Thank you Billy. That was very thoughtful of you—but how are we going to get in and out of the door? Well, as we can't move the bunker to the coal I think you had better help me move the coal into the bunker."

"Oh dear," sighed Billy as he went upstairs to change his clothes, "some Daddy's just don't know a good idea when they see it."

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# HAS AUSTRALIA A NEW BRADMAN?

By an Australian Correspondent

A 20-YEAR-OLD Australian batsman, Norman O'Neill, is already being dubbed "The New Bradman".

Oddly enough, Australian Test selectors did not think him good enough for the side now touring Africa; but he seems certain of selection in the Australian XI which will play England in Australia this year.

Powerfully built—he is six foot tall and weighs 13 stone—Norman O'Neill is certainly a wonderful batsman. But the success that has so far come his way has not affected him and comparison with Bradman almost frightens him.

"It's a wonderful compliment to be compared with Sir Donald," he says, "but what a responsibility. Even if I can partly live up to the things that have been said about me I'll be happy."

His cricket began 12 years ago when he was "knee high to a bat." Each Sunday his uncle took the boy to a nearby pitch, where they would practise together for a couple of hours.

"I believe that you never really alter your style from the first time

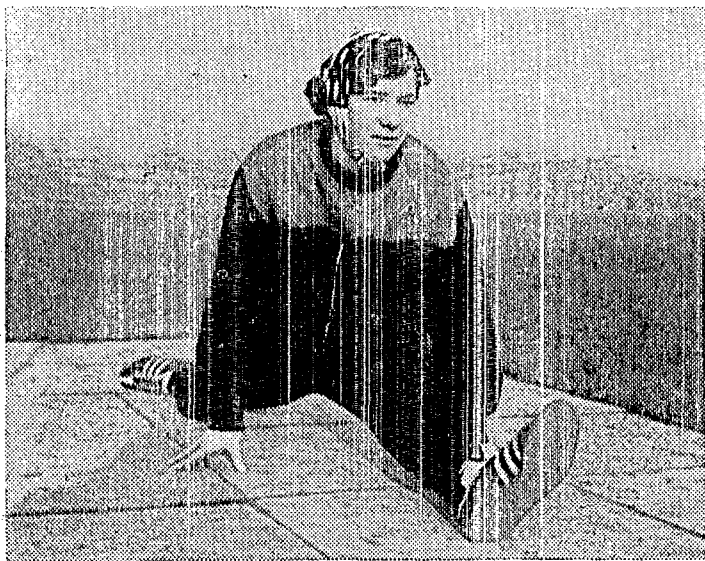
you pick up a bat," he says. "But my uncle is the one I owe most to for putting me on the right track."

O'Neill's entry into big cricket was in the 1955-56 season. He was playing for New South Wales against South Australia in the Sheffield Shield series (the Australian States championship), and was bowled first ball for a duck. Dropped from the side, he endeavoured to perfect his batting and temperament and last season the cricket world welcomed him again.

This season he has steadily climbed the ladder of success scoring his two greatest innings against the powerful Victorian attack—175 at Melbourne and 233 (in 244 minutes) in Sydney.

His present average for New South Wales is 60. He has batted 28 times for 1506 runs. This season he has scored 1668 runs in Shield and Grade (senior Sydney competition) cricket at an average of 104.

He will be 21 this Wednesday and the following day will marry former Empire Games hurdler Gwen Wallace.



## Exercise for a hurdler

Sheila Gould (18) of Fulham, London, is a hurdler with the Spartan Ladies' Athletic Club. Here she is seen doing some special exercises.

## Angela back to the top

A YEAR ago it seemed that Angela Mortimer's career as a top-class tennis player was over because of a long spell of ill-health. But she decided to fight her misfortunes, and last October she paid her own fare to Australia.

Her recovery was remarkable. Success after success came her way, and after winning several State championships, she became the Australian women's singles champion, the first British player to win the title since Miss Dorothy Round in 1935.

## Mile record in danger

NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD Herb Elliott last month became the first runner to break the "4-minute barrier" twice in one week, first in 3 minutes 59.9 seconds, and then in 3 minutes 58.7 seconds. In that second race, Merv Lincoln also beat four minutes for the mile—the second time he had done so.

Incidentally, John Landy, the former Australian Olympic runner, is still the only man ever to have run the mile in under four minutes on six occasions. Derek Ibbotson has done it four times.

## Sporting Flashbacks

THE F.A. CUP FINAL OF 1895 (ASTON VILLA v. WEST BROMWICH ALBION) TOOK PLACE AT KENNINGTON OVAL, WATCHED BY 42,560 PEOPLE...

DESPITE THE INTENSE PARTISANSHIP OF A VILLA-ALBION OCCASION, IT IS RECORDED THAT "THE CROWD WAS OF A HAPPY AND CONTENTED NATURE AND ONE BELL-MAN WAS SUFFICIENT TO CLEAR THE PLAYING FIELD OF SPECTATORS BOTH AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MATCH AND AFTER HALF-TIME."

VILLA SCORED THE ONLY GOAL IN THE FIRST 30 SECONDS, BUT THE CUP WAS STOLEN WHILE ON VIEW IN A BIRMINGHAM SHOP WINDOW LATER IN THE YEAR... AND NEVER RECOVERED.



INSIDE-RIGHT JAMES HOWIE JOINED NEWCASTLE UNITED FROM BRISTOL ROVERS IN 1903 AND LEFT FOR HUDDERSFIELD IN 1910...

IN THAT SHORT SPACE OF SEVEN YEARS HE WON THREE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS, THREE INTERNATIONAL CUPS FOR SCOTLAND AND PLAYED IN FOUR F.A. CUP FINALS (BUT ONLY ONCE ON THE WINNING SIDE).



## Revised rules for rugger

THE revised laws of Rugby Union football passed by the International Board will not become effective in the home countries until next season but in the southern hemisphere the winter season begins in April, and Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa are already preparing to play to the new laws.

For some years highly-developed defensive and "spoiling" tactics have slowed-down rugby, and brought tedium to both players and spectators. In first-class matches there are often more than a hundred stoppages due to scrums, lines-out, or penalties.

Now the legislators have made a real effort to keep the game open and moving. The chief change in the scrumage law is that in future the tight-head hooker can use either foot to strike at the ball, and

thus have a fairer chance against his loose-head opponent, who must use only his farther foot. This is one of the mysteries which may only be rightly understood by someone who has tucked his head into a scrum; but from the onlooker's point of view it should mean that the ball does not automatically come out on the side of the scrum-half who puts it in.

Another change is that if the ball is incorrectly thrown in at a line-out the other side have the option of throwing it in themselves or taking a scrumage.

The knock-on law has been amended by the ruling that a slight and unintentional fumble in taking a pass need not be regarded as a knock forward.

In future penalty kicks may be taken in any direction—even backwards—and not, as now, at least

five yards towards the opposing goal-line.

Another new law is that after a tackle the ball need not necessarily be played with the foot. And next season we shall miss the familiar sight of the scrum-half lying in the mud to place the ball for the man who is attempting to convert a try. The kicker can place the ball himself.

These and other changes should provide some solid reading during the summer months for boys who love the handling code.

We trust they will not follow the bad example of a famous international who once confessed when he had retired, after a long and distinguished career in the game, that he had never read the laws in his life! He merely learnt the game by playing it at school and "picked it up as he went along."

## It's cold out there

YOU would think that soccer was out of the question during the Russian winter, and, indeed, the season does not usually start until April, although it has gradually been starting earlier and earlier. (This year it begins at the end of March.) But special winter tournaments are, in fact, held in many of the big cities.

The games are played on snow-

covered pitches rolled firm with a special type of wooden roller. The bars or studs on the players' boots provide a firm grip. The conditions are said to be little different to playing on grass.

Players wear the usual shorts and jerseys—on top of skating suits. And no wonder. Only when the temperature drops to 36 degrees of frost are the games cancelled!

## Butterfly champion

Pat Baines (13) of Ilford holds the Essex County Senior and Junior titles for the butterfly stroke, and was second in last year's national junior 110 yards event. She has been invited to attend the A.S.A. advanced training course for Olympic possibilities to be held at Leicester in April.

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. For what is Baron de Coubertin famed?
2. Which soccer player is known as the Wizard of Dribble?
3. Who was the first woman to swim the English Channel?
4. Which tennis player has competed at every Wimbledon since the war?
5. Which soccer player has represented his country the most times?
6. What is the centre of an archery target called?

1. He was founder of the modern Olympic Games (at Athens in 1896). 2. Stanley Matthews. 3. Gertrude Ederle, an American. 4. Billy Wright (73 times for England). 5. Billy in 1926. 6. The gold.

